

THE JOURNAL



OF THE
PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Issue Number Three April 1985

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>>>>> CALENDAR OF P.C.N.S. COMING EVENTS <<<<<

April 24, 1985, Wednesday, 8:00pm
P.C.N.S. Monthly Meeting
Topic: Greek Coins- The Hellenistic Monarchies
from Alexander the Great to Cleopatra VII.
Seaby slide show with talk by Larry Reppeteau.
1985 Papers Contest deadline at the April meeting.

May 29, 1985, Wednesday, 8:00pm.
P.C.N.S. Monthly Meeting
Topic: The Coinage of Philip II of Macedon.
Presentation to be given by William Henry.

June 29, 1985, Saturday
Annual P.C.N.S. Banquet
At the New San Remo Restaurant
2237 Mason Street, San Francisco.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Osmyn Stout
President of P.C.N.S.

Well, we have made it! This is issue number three of The Journal. Many thanks to the hard work and diligence of our editor, Stephen Huston. Further appreciation needs to go to our Publications Committee and contributors.

We thank O. L. Wallis who developed the guidelines for our annual papers contest. Our Board of Governors sent him back to make revisions three different times during the Spring of 1984 before final approval was made.

This now provides a realistic structure for our writers. Members of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society have been research enthusiasts from the beginning. We are in the process of gathering all the known numismatic papers prepared by our members since the inception of the Society in 1915.

We find that this is not easy. Many have been lost over the years. Copies were not always preserved for our files. We are appealing to other publications and individuals who may have copies of papers from PCNS members. Please forward them to our editor.

We have been pleased to note that many of our members have been given recognition for their research and written efforts in other state-wide and national numismatic publications. We are grateful and appreciate that the work of our members has been given this honor.

During 1984 we decided to change a long-standing custom. Instead of the papers contest deadline being in October with the result announced at our December meeting, the Board of Governors determined that our annual banquet on the last Saturday of June would be the time to announce the winners of the literary awards.

This means that the numismatic papers contest deadline is now the April meeting. This allows the chairman, this year O.L. Wallis, to have sufficient time to distribute the papers to the various judges for their careful review.

We are looking forward with increased expectations to the results of what we consider to be improvements in our Society. Readers will be able to see this in future issues of The Journal.

(Ed. note: See page 18 for the Papers Contest Rules.)

THE HANDICAPPED BUFFALO

by Frank J. Strazzarino

In song, "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" may be the most famous reindeer of them all, but, when it comes to buffalo, the 1937-D three-legged buffalo nickel is, in my opinion, the most famous buffalo of them all.

Little did that famous sculptor, James Earle Fraser, know when he labored tediously perfecting the buffalo nickel design that the imperfectly struck coins would capture the limelight. It must have been quite frustrating, after having made sure that all the legs were portrayed in precise detail, to have the coins which were struck with only three of the four legs showing to be the ones most sought after by collectors.



This fine detail has proven most valuable in separating the genuine coins from the counterfeits and from those which have been altered from perfectly struck coins. This error was caused by a broken or clogged die which was undoubtedly destroyed after the imperfection was discovered. This die also had many design features entirely different from the accurate die used for the regular four-legged variety. The detail in the hind leg in particular has stymied most counterfeiters, and the entire reverse has many characteristics which are known to any knowledgeable buffalo nickel collector, and, therefore, fake or altered coins can easily be detected.

You can identify the genuine specimens as follows:

1. The entire buffalo on the three-legger is slightly smaller than on the other buffalo nickels.
2. The "E Pluribus Unum" is smaller.
3. The bottoms of the initial letter P and U in Pluribus Unum are well clear of the buffalo's back; on other buffalo nickels they almost touch.

4. The beard is narrower than on the four-legged buffalo. Its tip ends are sharp pointed and the right one hangs lower than the left; on all others the tips are blunt and nearly even in length.
5. The area of hair in front of the animal's lower shoulder is narrower than on the others.
6. The hoof below the missing leg is a weak strike; on the others it is well struck.
7. The line of the underbody is quite even as it joins the front leg; on the others a narrow sunken area appears.
8. On the three-leggers a series of lumps in the metal form an arc in the area between the upper hind and lower front legs; this does not appear on the others.
9. The tip below the belly is relatively long and narrow, slants back toward the back legs and appears to have a ball end; on the other buffalos the tip is much shorter, wider and squared at the end.
10. The hind legs are well formed and proportioned except that they are not fully rounded, which gives them a somewhat moth-eaten appearance; on the others the legs are fully rounded, thicker and more stocky.

This coin is one of the rare coins of recent mintage. While the number struck is unknown, it is thought to have been comparatively small. One of the reasons collectors have always liked this celebrated mint error is that it can be seen readily with the naked eye. A magnifying glass or microscope is not needed as is usually the case in most die errors.

This coin was once common in change throughout certain areas of the country. They were found in Omaha, Nebraska, in Denver, Colorado, and in some parts of Idaho and Montana. Although most states did not receive any at all, comparatively few had been bagged for shipment by the mint before the die error was discovered, and, in those areas, some found their way into general circulation.

Numismatic writer, Robert L. Clarke, writing in his World Coin Commentary column in the December 1, 1970 issue of Numismatic News Weekly, had this to say:

"While living in Denver I had a good thing going with a stamp and coin dealer on the west coast. He allowed me six bits in trade on every three-legged buffalo nickel. This coin was first reported from Omaha, where a banker found several rolls and asked \$2.00 for a single specimen. He believed he had the market cornered. About that time we found them in general circulation in Denver. Would you believe that I even received specimens in change at coin and stamp shops? The usual take was three or four a week."

There have been other die errors of the same nature in this series. Three-legged buffalo are known in the 1935 and 1936-D strikes. Two-legged buffalo and even five-legged buffalo have been reported. None of these, however, has attained the same fame, captured the serious interest of collectors or been as widely publicized.

This noted lack of enthusiasm for the other die errors is attributed to, first, the amount discovered has been very small and therefore beyond the hope of attainment. Second, they were usually discovered many years after being minted, and the information as to the dies used and other pertinent factors in their striking is no longer readily obtainable. Third, quite often the coins had been in circulation for years before being discovered and their condition is not as good as desired. Fourth, the authenticity of some of these so-called die errors is certainly not beyond question, and, in other cases, it is extremely doubtful.

The buffalo nickel series was minted between the years 1913 and 1938 at the Philadelphia, Denver and San Francisco mints. The mintmarks, D for Denver and S for San Francisco, are found beneath the E and C of FIVE CENTS on the reverse. In 1913, the first year of issue, there were two distinct varieties; the first showed the buffalo on a mound, and second had the base redesigned to a thinner straight line and the date was recessed. The capital F below the date stands for Fraser, the designer.

The buffalo was modeled after "Black Diamond" in the New York Zoological Garden. This majestic animal lived to the age of 22 years. In 1915, this 1,550 pound animal was sold for \$700.00 and was then sold for restaurant steaks. His magnificent head, however, was mounted and preserved.

Fraser designed his nickel employing three different Indians as models for the obverse. Two of the three Indians who definitely posed for Fraser were John Big Tree, a Seneca, and Two Moons, a Cheyenne. Although other Indians have made claim to being the third model, both the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of the Mint concur that the third Indian was called Two Guns Whitecalf.

James Earle Fraser was born on November 4, 1876 at Winona, Minnesota. He was termed one of America's most gifted and prolific sculptors. In 1894, he studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and also later in Paris. He served as assistant to Augustus St. Gaudens from 1898 to 1902 and then became an instructor in art in New York City at the Art Students League from 1906 to 1911.

Many of his massive works can be found in New York City and Washington, D.C. He designed his famous statue "The End of the Trail" when he was only 17 years old. He won a prize for his work, and it was then displayed at the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, California. He also designed the World War I Victory Medal of the U.S. Navy. He died October 11, 1953 in Westbrook, Connecticut.

Bibliography:

Clarke, Robert L. "World Coin Commentary." Numismatic News Weekly December 1, 1970, page 14.

Coffing, Courtney L., and Wagner, Dick. "Invectives Greet Indian-Buffalo Nickel." Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine April 25, 1972, pages 310-330.

"Cripple of the Old West." Coins, March 1966, page 17.

"Old Indian's Claims Fail to Pass in Accuracy Test." Coin World, March 10, 1971, page 41.

INFORMATION FOR ADVERTISERS

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THE ENIGMA OF ALCHEMICAL COINS

by J. Allen Gilbert, Ph.D.

Life is full of surprises and so is the pursuit of ancient and medieval numismatics in which the collector is confronted with many gateways to adventure. Some of the discoveries lead into realms not easily visible to the general public.

Beyond the mere intrinsic value of the coin or its metal content and mintage, the collector can explore its historically related background covering ancient, feudal and medieval times.

Knowledge of mythology and symbolism can enhance the explorer's awareness of many abstract areas which are incorporated in the design of the coin. In the medieval period we find references to allegorical, religious and philosophical themes.

Apropos of the philosophical aspects, one of the most obscure and difficult to evaluate are the medieval coins bearing alchemical allegorical inscriptions.

In an extremely rare book, privately printed in 1693 and dedicated to Fredricus IV, King of Norway and Sleswigholstein, we found extensive references to the alchemical aspects of coins - especially to those produced for Gustavus Adolphus II, King of Sweden (1611-1632), minted during 1604-1635. These coins were produced in gold, silver and copper. An extensive number were struck in his name in gold ducats (in multiples up to five).



Most of the alchemical inscriptions and symbols were limited to single and double gold ducats, and to single and double "show" dalers (shown above). Many of these coins were struck at

numerous mints in Germany, such as Augsburg, Wurtzburg and Frankfurt-Am-Main.

The double gold ducat (shown below) shows the bust of Gustavus II facing right on the obverse. The reverse shows a crowned coat of arms and the date 1634, as well as two significant alchemical symbols (not astrological). The one on the right is the sign of Mercury, signifying the mercurial nature of the human mind; the one on the left represents Sulphur, related to the "fires" of moral purification and transformation.



DOUBLE GOLD DUCAT

To most people, the very name of alchemy conjures up a picture of a sage laboring over a primitive furnace, seeking the key of "transmutation" which will transform base metal into gold. The real purpose was not material wealth at all! Also alchemy was not the mother of chemistry.

Rudimentary knowledge of chemistry existed thousands of years before this. The first indications of alchemy are found in China as early as the first century. From there the "Art" found its way to Europe where it was introduced into Spain by the Arabs, about the 12-14th century. During the Middle Ages, one of the greatest alchemical doctors was Paracelsus (1493-1541). Later, other illustrious names such as Newton and Robert Boyle were added to the roster of the "Art."

But why, originally, were alchemical coins minted? We do not mean coins minted from transmuted metals (such transmutation has been accomplished on a small scale in atomic research), though there are such claims on record. We are aware that alchemical "speculation" took Europe by storm and attracted the attention of many monarchs. Rudolph II of Bohemia (1576-1608) assembled many workers in alchemistry to help him find the great secret. In Prague, he provided them with houses equipped with furnaces. These are to be seen today, covering almost two city blocks in the heart of the city.

The "material" aspect is barely the tip of the alchemical iceberg. The true purpose is as much a mystery now as it was a thousand years ago, being still concealed from the eyes of the impure and the greedy. "True" alchemy dealt with the philosophical reformation of mankind, reforming the base character into the ennobled (refined) "philosophical Gold." This was the purpose of the enigmatic inscriptions on the alchemical coins. We can illustrate this by a quotation from the double silver "show" daler, dated 1652. The obverse reads "Vant, geen dat elck vermeet, benickint wesen bracht." A loose translation reads:

What from a lowly state, (which few consider worth of consideration) I (the lowly worm-like nature was brought into existence) which time and again was considered no better than so much refuse. I (the transmuted lowly worm nature) can now boast, "I reflect the highest (spiritual) splendor" (of the alchemical "Art").

The first illustration shows the furnace on the left, with a worm with crown emerging, which signified the lowly nature, ennobled, through the action of the alchemical fire.

The reverse reads "Langst geweest eerst gevonden deer Gotts gaeft to deser stoudent koompt van Godt dit edel lot." Translated:

Long known and first (originally) created by God in His good time (and now recovered) by God-endowed (inspired seekers of wisdom), the noble (refined) lot.

The illustration shows the "seekers" prospecting from the crude (common) ore of truth (Gold), preparatory to refinement and smelting by "fire."

This was intended to convey a philosophical message of hope and encouragement to all "God-endowed" seekers of alchemical "wisdom" (the pearl of great price), as well as the refinement represented by Gold, rather than a base metal.

King Gustavus Adolphus II was a very enlightened monarch, in this regard, and wanted to spread the message of enlightenment, so he concealed it paradoxically, in the "open," where it was read by those who had eyes to see LUX ET VERITAS!

The silver dalers were minted in sizes up to 72mm; the two dalers up to 60mm. These coins are very rare and difficult to obtain, commanding substantial sums into the thousands of dollars.



(Editor's note: This paper received the PCNS Literary Award First Prize silver medal in 1979. Our thanks to Dr. Gilbert for providing THE JOURNAL with a full copy of this work.)

THE LUCKIEST MEN IN THE WORLD:

WHITE RAJAHS AND SARAWAK CENTS

by Grover Cagle

"I've been all over the world, but I never found a better place than Sarawak, or a better people. I was the luckiest man in the world to be the Rajah." - Charles Vyner Brooke

There was only one man in the western world who succeeded in making himself emperor of an Eastern People and founding a dynasty which lasted one hundred years. He looked and behaved like a romantic hero, while leading the life juveniles dream of - fighting pirates, confronting enemies in their lairs and battling at the head of savage tribesmen whose women's beauty rivaled that of story book princesses.

James Brooke reached Sarawak, on the Northwest corner of Borneo, in 1839, while the land was in the middle of a civil war. In return for his aid to the Rajah Muda Hassim in bringing the war to an end, he was given "power over the country of Sarawak together with all its dependencies and present and future revenues." When Brooke became Rajah, in 1841, his concern for the people of the country became immediately apparent with the seventh of his original eight laws in which he proposed introduction of a doit (small copper coinage) so the poor could purchase food cheaply.

In 1863, Great Britain recognized Sarawak as independent and, in 1888, took over the country's foreign relations. The only coinage issued under James Brooke was the 1863 copper one-fourth cent, the one-half cent and the 31mm one-cent piece, all minted in London.



Brooke is portrayed on the obverse of the cent with the inscription "J. BROOKE, RAJAH." On the reverse, "ONE CENT" is surrounded by a wreath with the date below and "SARAWAK" above.

James Brooke's successor was his nephew, Charles Anthony Johnson Brooke, who ruled the country for fifty years and extended the

empire until it stretched across nearly all of Northern Borneo. He was a somber man who ruled feverishly, abruptly and with occasional cruelty.



From 1861 until 1891, Charles A. Brooke issued a copper 31mm cent with his portrait and the inscription "C. BROOKE, RAJAH" on the obverse. The reverse is identical to that of his Uncle's coinage.



From 1892 until 1897, the coin was issued in a reduced size and was holed. A small portrait of Brooke is above the hole, crossed flags beneath. Except for the hole, the reverse is unchanged. Both series were minted at Heaton, Birmingham.

The last Rajah was Charles Vyner Brooke. A benevolent despot, he guided the country into the era of modern industrialism.



In 1920, a copper-nickel cent measuring 18mm portrayed the Rajah and was inscribed "C.V. BROOKE, RAJAH, SARAWAK." On the reverse is simply "ONE CENT" wreathed with the date below.



The last cent piece of Sarawak was the 24mm bronze dated from 1927 until 1941.

In 1941, advice from the British representative was accepted on all matters of external affairs and defense, and, from 1941 until 1945, the country was occupied by the Japanese. The country was so devastated by the occupation that, in 1949, Rajah Brooke ceded Sarawak to Great Britain, and it became a crown colony. The coinage was then that of Malaya and British North Borneo.

On September 16, 1963, Sarawak became one of the thirteen states comprising the Federation of Malaysia. The monetary system is now that of one hundred Sen equaling one Ringget Dollar.

Charles Vymer Brooke then sat alone in a London apartment, surrounded by mementos of the East Indies - the last of the White Rajahs.



Recommended reading:

The White Rajahs of Sarawak: Robert Payne: Funk and Wagnalls Co., N.Y. 1960.



Grover Lewis Cagle

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CHINESE GOLD COINS OF DOUBTFUL ORIGIN AND BOGUS CONCOCTIONS

by Eduard Kann

(Ed. Note: This is Part IIb of a three-part series on Chinese Gold by Eduard Kann. Part I appeared in Issue 1 and Part IIa, which includes the beginning of the following list appeared in Issue 2 at page 10. Part III will appear in the next issue.)

There exist numerous fabrications of Chinese gold coins made by forgers, who either imitated existing silver coinage in gold or else invented gold coins of their own designs.

Some of these "creations" are mentioned here more as a warning and not for the purpose of perpetuating their existence or acceptance by collectors. The following is already incomplete because the nefarious practices of professional swindlers never terminate.

(List continued from Issue 2, page 10.)

(d) Another bogus product is to be found in two gold pieces, supposedly struck by the Sinkiang mint during the imperial regime, namely 1-tael and $\frac{1}{2}$ -tael. The obverse has within an inner ring four Chinese characters denoting "one tael military gold." There are four concentric circles within. There is no legend between the outer and inner circles. On the reverse is depicted a Chinese dragon surrounded by four Turki words. The $\frac{1}{2}$ -tael piece has the same design in smaller dimensions, and shows the lower denomination in Chinese characters.

(e) Mr. Ching Tse-wei of Shanghai has in his large Chinese coin collection a gold piece, a replica of the $\frac{1}{2}$ -tael silver piece, of Sinkiang, cataloged by Kalgan Shih as #C2-51. The gold piece seems to have been fabricated "privately and confidentially."

(f) Two republican Sinkiang pieces, dated 1912, appeared in gold and silver in denominations of 1 and 2 mace. They are of a similar pattern, but correspondingly smaller, than Shihs #C2-75. The 2-mace is 23mm in diameter and $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm thick. The 1-mace measures 19mm in diameter and is 1mm thick. Both show on their reverses the crossed five-barred republican flags. These were never issued by the provincial authorities and are bogus.

(g) Various Tibetan silver coins were also produced in gold, seemingly by private parties. So, for instance, the 1-tanka gold pieces of the 58th and 60th years of the Emperor Ch'ien Lung are

both bogus. Furthermore, another gold piece falls into this spurious group - a $\frac{1}{2}$ -tanka piece of Tibet dated the 3rd year of Hsien Feng.

(h) Mr Ching is also the owner of some Tibetan gold pieces, the legal existence of which is more than doubtful. They are two specimens of typically Tibetan style, though unknown in silver pieces. The obverses have a square at the center, the reverses a circle with Tibetan legends. Both are of the usual tanka size.

(i) The writer was offered, by a New York coin dealer, a supposedly Tibetan gold piece in the 1-tanka size. Its obverse contained a Chinese legend, while the reverse displayed Tibetan script for 1-tael. It was purportedly issued by the Emperor Hsien Feng. Tibet never had coins in "tael" denominations. This was a poor specimen of a bogus piece.

(j) In Wayte Raymond's Coins of the World, 20th Century Issues, 3rd Edition, page 226, a Tibetan gold piece of 1-mohur is illustrated. The obverse shows a lion-dog while the reverse contains a circle surrounding the Chinese character "Fu," the name of Buddha, encircled by a Tibetan inscription. This piece is a Shanghai concoction belonging to the extensive bogus group.

(k) Mr Ching also has in his collection a 5-candareen piece of the Hu Poo tael series in gold. The original was produced in silver only by way of an essay. It is certain that no example in gold was officially minted. If it emanated from the Tientsin mint, it is at best an unauthorized "mint sport."

(l) The same collector owns, or owned, a gold piece which shows on both sides Yuan Shih-kai's head in profile, and, in Chinese, "third year of the Chinese Republic." These are the obverse of the 20-cent piece in silver. Though most certainly struck by one of the provincial mints, there is no deviating from the fact that the coin is bogus, or, at best, a "mint sport."

(m) Mr. Ching is the owner of a 10-cent Yuan Shih-kai piece of the 3rd year of the Republic, but struck in gold. The reverse displays a fancy four-toed dragon of a design not found on any other Chinese coin. An analogous coin, with the Chinese legend "Beginning of the Hung Hsien regime" on the obverse in place of the date, also exists as a doubtful product in gold. Its reverse depicts the same fanciful dragon. (Shih #A6-1.)

(n) A half-dollar sized piece with the Sun Yat-sen design of 1912 exists in gold. In lay-out it is similar to the first republican Sun Yat-sen silver dollar, at least as far as the obverse is concerned. In the center is seen the bust of Dr. Sun in profile to the left. The upper outer ring reads "Republic of China," with "opening of the country memorial coin" below, all in

Chinese. Floral patterns are at right and left. The reverse shows in the center, within a beaded circle, two crossed republican flags, with "THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA" above in English. Below is an open wreath of grain. There is no indication of the denomination. No such coin was ever authorized in any metal, nor was it designed by any government mint. It is entirely the fanciful product of professional forgers.

(o) Seemingly the publication in The Numismatist, Volume 36, Number 11, page 517 for November 1923, was an attempt to gain authenticity for the following gold piece which is almost certainly a bogus piece. The article referred to was written by a E. T. Tolmachoff, who narrates that when the Chinese court was forced to flee Peking in 1900 as a result of the Boxer Rising, it was suggested that they take refuge in Manchuria, the original home of the Manchu dynasty. Manchurian separatists then started to work for secession from China proper and for the establishment of an independent state with a ruler from the Manchu reigning house. With this in view, gold coins allegedly were prepared, according to Tolmachoff, at the Kirin mint, dated in Chinese, "Hsin Ch'ou 1901." The obverse is patterned on the silver coins of that year, with the Yin Yang symbol in the center, but the legend differs. Within an inner pearly circle are found four Chinese characters denoting "gold yuan for circulation." In the outer circle appear ten Chinese characters which translate "Kuang Hsu, 1901, made in Kirin mint." The reverse differs radically from that of the silver coins of Kirin and is somewhat similar in appearance to the then-minted 1-cent coppers. In the center is seen a large dragon, and at the four compass points are single Manchu characters. The gold used in striking was not of even fineness, varying in color. The specimen illustrated in the article was said to weigh $5/12$ to $11/24$ of an ounce troy, being 25.7mm in diameter. Most of the coins were said to have been melted, and very few specimens were believed to be still extant. Since 1923, a good deal of numismatic work has been accomplished in China, but no one has ever referred to this coin. Until proofs to the contrary are forthcoming, it will be wise to consider it as bogus.

(p) A Chinese collector owns two republican gold coins in the 20-cent denomination, namely Kwangtung province, 13th year of the Republic (Shih #C5-29) and another of the 17th year (#C5-34). These were issued regularly only in silver, so the gold replicas might, at best, be termed "mint sports."

(q) The 50-cent nickel piece, dated 32nd year of the Republic, was shown to the author in gold. As it cannot be assumed that it was intended as a souvenir coin, it follows that it (Shih #F1-30 in gold) is another of the "mint sports."

(r) The only two Shangtung gold coins, dated to the 15th year of



A modern fake of an ancient Chinese Spade-money piece.

the Republic, in the denominations of \$20 and \$10, while existing in the genuine state, also have been forged. Since deviations in the design are rather inconspicuous, one should be very careful in acquiring these.

(s) In 1936, a Chinese goldsmith doing business under the firm name of Yang King-ho issued a gold piece without denomination and sold some according to weight at the market price for gold. On one side a native junk is to be seen, while the reverse displays Saint George on horseback together with the goldsmith's firm name. These pieces have plain edges and are not of uniform weight, though averaging of the size of the half sovereign piece of Great Britain. The maker's purpose was to serve the small man, not numismatists, who desired to hold small savings in gold. The issue was neither fraudulent nor bogus, though unauthorized and privately struck, but, strictly speaking, it is not a coin. Government authorities soon interdicted the further emission of these gold pieces.

With the foregoing enumeration, one nearly exhausts the alphabet. There is no doubt that further fakes of Chinese gold coins will be discovered, so that the foregoing narrative is merely the beginning of a sad tale.

(Ed. Note: The foregoing article was written in 1951 and distributed to then-current PCNS members. We are pleased to have it back in print for the first time in 34 years.)

P.C.N.S. 1985 PAPERS CONTEST RULES

Each year PCNS holds an annual papers contest to encourage its members to undertake numismatic research.

The deadline for papers will be April 24, 1985. Authors must be PCNS members and may submit more than one paper, but only one award per author may be given. The papers must be unpublished.

Judging will be accomplished by a panel of no fewer than three numismatists. Judges will consider:

a) Contribution to the study of Numismatics: new research, interpretations, availability of the information to numismatists.

b) Clarity of presentation: organization of information and readability, use of illustrations and appropriate aids, adequacy of citations of other works where appropriate, grammar, spelling and clear communication of information.

c) Interest to other numismatists.

An engraved silver PCNS medal, will be awarded to the author of the winning paper. Authors of the second and third place papers will be awarded engraved bronze medals. Each author who submits a paper will receive a Certificate of Recognition. Awards will be presented at the June Banquet.

Following the awards, the Society will encourage an oral presentation at a monthly meeting based upon the paper. It is hoped that papers may be published in THE JOURNAL.

Length is not to exceed 1500 words, approximately six double-spaced typewritten pages. Illustrations, charts, footnotes, and bibliography are not counted as part of the text. It should be typed, double-spaced, one side, on 8½x11 white paper.

Papers should be submitted with a "title page" containing: title, author's name, mailing address, and phone number. This page will be removed by the Papers Chairman before judging. The first page following the "title page" should contain the title of the paper, but the author's name should not appear on this or other pages.

Illustrations should be accompanied by any necessary text. Quotes must be properly credited. Information taken directly from published works must be indicated in proper footnotes. A bibliography of related works or works used by the author should be included at the end. Plagerism will result in disqualification.

Three copies of the paper, including illustrations, must be received by the Papers Chairman or the Society by April 24, 1985.

A full copy of the rules and guidelines will be sent on request.

1. IF YOU HAVE NOT YET PAID YOUR 1985 DUES, THEY ARE NOW LATE AND YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE MEMBERSHIP BEFORE OUR NEXT MAILING UNLESS YOU SEND THEM NOW.
2. REMEMBER TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE FOR THE ANNUAL BANQUET IN JUNE. A RETURN SLIP IS BEING MAILED TO ALL MEMBERS WITH THIS ISSUE.

THE FIRST COINAGE OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

FROM THE MEXICO CITY MINT
UNDER CARLOS AND JOAHANA OF SPAIN



SILVER 4-REALES
COINAGE BEGAN AT THE MINT ABOUT APRIL 1536,
CONTINUING THE TYPE UNTIL THE DEATH OF
JOAHANA THE MAD IN 1555.

The silver 4-reales was the largest coin
struck during this era at Mexico, the only mint
in the new world, and this example is from that period.
Scarce.

Crowned pillars with 4 and legend PLVS VLTRA.
Arms of Spain on rev.
This specimen is a treasure-ship recovery piece.
Toned XF/VF.

\$225-

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